Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of the claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1-20 (Cancelled)

21 (Currently Amended). ~~In a~~A method for treating a patient having an autoimmune ~~and~~ or inflammatory ~~diseases against~~ disease in which ~~a~~ tumor necrosis factor (TNF) ~~receptor is effective in a patient by~~ plays a role, comprising administering to the patient an effective amount of a TNF receptor, the improvement wherein said TNF receptor is administered ~~in combination~~ with dehydroepiandrosterone (DHEA) simultaneously, separately or sequentially, so as to achieve an effective blood level of the combination, thereby treating the autoimmune or inflammatory disease.

22 (Withdrawn). The method of claim 21, wherein the TNF receptor is TNF Binding Protein-2.

23 (Withdrawn-Currently Amended). The method of claim 22, wherein the disease treated is an autoimmune disease.

24 (Withdrawn-Currently Amended). The method of claim 22, wherein the disease treated is an inflammatory disease.

25 (Previously Presented). The method of claim 21, wherein the TNF receptor is TNF Binding Protein-1.

26 (Currently Amended). The method of claim 25, wherein the disease treated is an autoimmune disease.

27 (Currently Amended). The method of claim 25, wherein the disease treated is an inflammatory disease.

28 (Currently Amended). The method of claim 21, wherein the disease treated is an autoimmune disease.

29 (Currently Amended). The method of claim 21, wherein the disease treated is an inflammatory disease.

30 (Previously Presented). The method of claim 21, wherein said autoimmune or inflammatory disease is rheumatoid arthritis, lupus erythematosus, or multiple sclerosis.

31 (Currently Amended). The method of claim 30, wherein the TNF receptor is TNF ~~binding protein~~Binding Protein-1.

32 (Withdrawn). The method of claim 30, wherein the TNF receptor is TNF Binding Protein-2.